

# The International Peace Garden

INCORPORATED

## *History and Progress*

REVISED EDITION

by M. J. TINLINE  
SUPERINTENDENT



### **"TO GOD IN HIS GLORY**

WE TWO NATIONS DEDICATE THIS GARDEN AND PLEDGE OURSELVES  
THAT AS LONG AS MEN SHALL LIVE, WE WILL  
NOT TAKE UP ARMS AGAINST  
ONE ANOTHER"

# INTERNATIONAL PEACE GARDEN, INCORPORATED

## History

A CERTAIN citizen of Canada was returning in 1928 to the land of his adoption, after attending a gathering of Gardeners held in Greenwich, Connecticut, and, thinking of the warm welcome he had received and the interesting people he had associated with, the thought came to him, "Why not have a Garden on the International Boundary Line where the people of the two countries could share the glories found in a lovely garden and the pleasures found in warm friendships?" This man, Henry J. Moore of Islington, Ontario, had graduated from the famous Kew Gardens of England and had taught at Cornell University and at the Ontario Agricultural College.

A year later, the National Association of Gardeners of the United States met in Toronto and approved Mr. Moore's idea. An International Committee of three was appointed,—two Americans and one Canadian, to select a suitable spot where the two nations could mingle freely without barriers. Largely through the efforts of Mr. J. W. Parmley, Ipswich, South Dakota, and Mr. W. V. Udall, Boissevain, Manitoba, chairmen of the Canal to Canada highway committees in their respective countries, Dr. Moore and Joseph Dunlop of South Euclid, Ohio, inspected the Turtle Mountain district in early June, 1931. The State of North Dakota made possible an aeroplane trip over the area, and Dr. Moore described the trip over the Mountains in these words:

"What a sight greeted the eye! Those undulating hills rising out of the limitless prairies are filled with lakes and streams. On the south of the unrecognizable boundary, wheat everywhere; and on the north, the Manitoba Forest Reserve. What a place for a Garden!"

The State of North Dakota offered to provide 888 acres of land, about one-half farm lands, the remainder tree covered and gently undulating. The Province of Manitoba transferred to the International Peace Garden corporation for as long as the Peace Garden continues, a block of adjacent land that measured when the final survey was made, 1,451.3 acres. This was forest reserve, extremely undulating, with round topped hills crowned with paper birch, with poplar and oak at intermediate levels, and willow on the lower lands. Later in the year the committee of fifty met and reached a decision, which was almost unanimous, that the offer of these properties be accepted.

Dr. Moore, in a radio address given Christmas night that same year over CFRB in Toronto, made this statement:

"The Great Garden will be on the Canal to Canada highway, at a point on the International Boundary between Dunseith, North Dakota, and Boissevain, Manitoba, and sixty miles south of Brandon. The location is almost the exact centre between the Atlantic and the Pacific and but thirty miles north of the exact centre of the North American continent which is at Rugby, North Dakota. The highway extends from a point two hundred miles north of the boundary to the Panama Canal, and it is to extend north to Churchill and south to Cape Horn. Upon this Main Street of the Americas, which will be the longest north and south highway in the world, will travel millions of people in the days to come."

The Highway, it is hoped, will link this Garden of Peace with the monument, Christ of the Andes, erected by the Argentine and Chilean governments on their boundary in 1904.

The first construction work within the Peace Garden was a stone cairn erected in 1932 on the International Line, a short distance from the proposed entrance. So great was the interest in the proposed Peace Garden that a tremendous crowd gathered on the Border, many miles from the nearest villages, to attend the dedication ceremony on July 14th, 1932. The crowd was estimated at over 50,000 people. Led by the Bishop of Brandon, they unitedly pledged themselves in the words inscribed on the bronze plaque built into the Cairn and framed with Indian stone hammers:

"TO GOD IN HIS GLORY  
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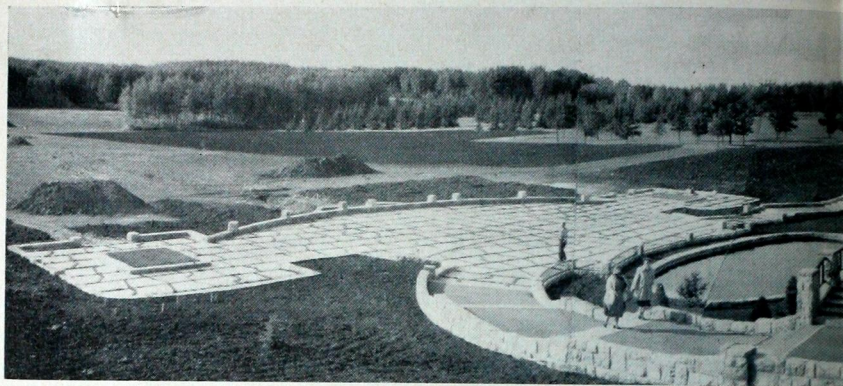
In the first years, the Peace Garden was sponsored entirely by people living in the eastern part of North America. The International Peace Garden Incorporated was organized under the laws of the State of New York and until 1933 the annual meetings were held in the City of New York.

It was the Gardeners' Associations of the two countries that sponsored the idea of having a Peace Garden and it was their committee that selected the site. Their appeal for support was made to the public, including individuals, organizations, and all levels of Governments. In other words, it was a movement of the people, by the people, for the purpose of expressing the deep-rooted desire of all citizens for the promotion and maintenance of international goodwill and harmonious relationships between nations. It is true there are international parks and bridges, etc., but these largely found their origin in governmental action and were financed almost entirely by Government funds, and do not constitute an expression of the common people for the ideals sought in the International Peace Garden movement. It is therefore apparent that this Garden is the only one of its kind on the International Boundary.

The Garden was launched during the period of serious depression, sometimes called "The Hungry Thirties." There was much unemployment and young men were gathered into the Civilian Conservation Corps in the United States and into Unemployed Relief Programs in Canada. A Civilian Conservation Camp was established in the International Peace Garden on the American side in 1934. An artificial lake of considerable size was created by members of the Camp through the construction of a dam and a separate spillway. This lake has since been named Lake Udall, after W. V. Udall, editor of the Boissevain Recorder, who has assisted greatly with the development. Three miles of gravelled park road were built, with log bridges over streams. A Lodge was erected using Canadian logs and United States stone. This building is 105 feet long, with a wing 60 feet long, which is used as a dining room for group gatherings. The Lodge especially is popular with organizations having international connections. Three large picnic shelters were also built and seven tourist cabins, the latter providing accommodation for twelve groups. Incinerators and open-air fire places are in the vicinity of the picnic shelters. Also a regulation high wire fence was built on the outer boundaries.

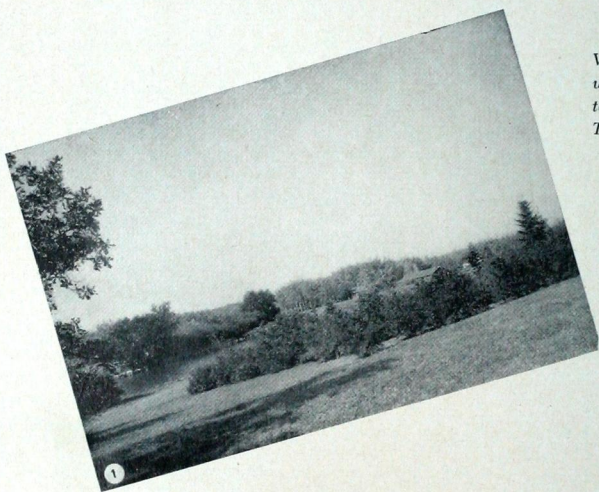
On the Canadian side, a small lake was created near the entrance to the Garden and a large lake further back. In 1939 extensive plantings of ornamental trees and shrubs were made around the small lake. A three-mile road was surveyed, graded and gravelled, so that visitors now travelling over it get attractive views of the large body of water. It has been named Lake Stormon, after Mr. John Stormon of Rolla, North Dakota, who has been connected with the Peace Garden for many years, first as Secretary and more recently as Chairman of the Board of Directors.





## INTERNATIONAL PEACE GARDENS

View to the north over the upper terrace with the western end of the Peace Garden. The terrace at the left will connect with the Terraced Gardens Panel. The far side of the lake and the house are visible at the far end.

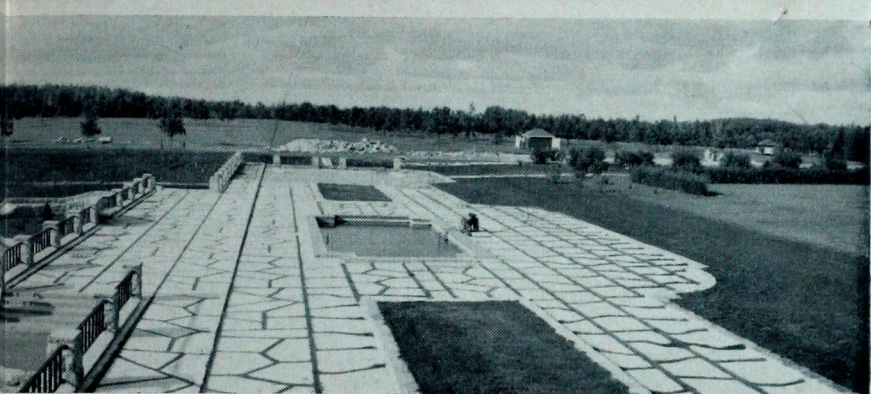


## Scenes

## International Peace Gardens

1. Plantings, Canadian side.
3. Outlet of Lake on the Canadian side.
6. Lake Stormon.
7. Amid Its Woodland.





Photograph by Burroughs—September 1953

## GARDEN — FORMAL AREA

and lower terrace developments,  
 ice Panel at the right. The lower  
 with the proposed cascade in the  
 foundations for the north garden  
 end of the upper terrace.

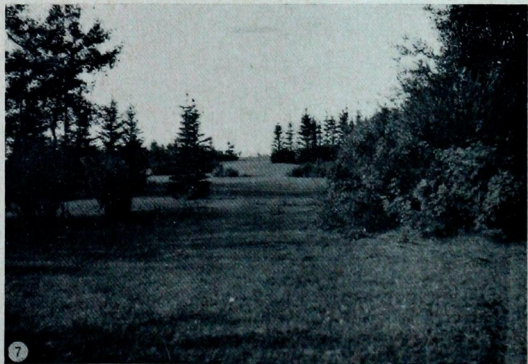


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## Progress

The Second World War put a temporary stop to Federal aid in the development of the Peace Garden. In 1948 the Board of Directors of the Garden launched a campaign for funds with which to resume development. An appeal was made to individuals and organizations, to State and Provincial governments, and to Federal governments on both sides of the line. Congress voted \$100,000 to be expended in the years 1950 to 1953. The Canadian Government voted \$15,000 yearly but this was reduced to \$10,000 in 1953. The State of North Dakota made grants providing \$4,000 annually. The State Historical Society of North Dakota also contributed substantially by making available the services of its officials and by practical co-operative assistance. The Province of Manitoba gave \$2,500 in cash in 1953 and in addition provided substantial assistance in the form of free labor, engineering service, use of equipment and in road construction. Many rural municipalities, towns and cities, Chambers of Commerce, business organizations and service clubs joined actively in promoting this great project.

Women's organizations have given wonderful encouragement. The Federated Women's Institutes of Canada, and the Homemakers of the United States, the Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire, the Order of the Eastern Star, and the Business and Professional Women's Clubs have not only assisted financially but they have also used Peace Garden literature in their study groups. These women's organizations recognize the part that this International Peace Garden can play in moulding, developing, and sustaining the peaceful relations that now exist between these two nations. The Garden can be made into a place of beauty that will call the attention of nations everywhere to the fact that here on the North American continent is a frontier 3,987 miles long between two nations and the only fort is this Fortress of Friendship, located in the centre of the continent.

The blueprints and plans drafted by the National Parks Service of the United States in consultation with the National Parks Service of Canada provide for distinctive features in the garden area. Two large natural parks, one on each side of the Boundary, are being developed, as well as a Formal Area that will extend along the Boundary. The latter will consist of a series of panels, which jointly will extend for three-quarters of a mile westward from the main entrance, and will be constructed so that one side will be an exact duplicate of the other. From east to west they will be: the Peace Panel, the Terrace Panel, the Sunken Garden, the Cascade Panel, the Reflecting Pool and the Peace Tower.

### Peace Panel

The Cairn, situated on a turf plot on the Boundary Line, is the outstanding feature of the Peace Panel, with the national flags of the two countries waving colorfully in the breeze on either side, one to the north, the other to the south.

Surrounding the Cairn are the plots of the National Home Demonstration Council of the United States and the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada, who have assumed financial responsibility for the landscaped grounds north and south of the entrance roads to the Garden. There, ornamental shrubs first meet the eye, a number giving early bloom. Tulips in glowing colors greet the spring visitor, followed by Morden Pink Lythrum and other perennials in summer, and Gladioli and Autumn Asters in the fall. Some 2,500 bedding plants of annual flowers are set out in the spring of each year. The Homemakers Clubs of North Dakota and the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada financed the building of an Information Booth in this area in 1952, and have since contributed further to its upkeep.

Adjoining these plots are the large turfed areas financed by the Junior Red Cross of both countries, stretching in verdant greenness along the Boundary Line

up to the second or Terrace Panel. They are bordered by Asiatic Elm hedges which are assuming attractive pyramid form. Beyond these hedges to the north and south are several rows of Lilacs that bloom well into July, bordered by a row of American Elms that are giving height to these plantings. Beyond are two rows of Amur Maples that in the autumn flaunt their flaming colors to the skies. Outside these plantings are parking grounds, marked by stone curbs.

### **Terrace Panel**

The plans prepared by the National Parks Services call for seven terraces with seven stone retaining walls, and an ornamental pool in each terrace. These pools are to be on the Boundary Line, and the water will flow from one to the other down to a pool in the Sunken Garden. From this pool, it will be pumped back to the first pool in the upper terrace, to start on its rounds again.

The first terrace is bounded on the west by three massive granite walls, each 109 feet long. The centre wall is 10 feet from the concrete footings to the top of the pilasters, and each wall is topped with iron balustrades. Flagstones form the floor of this 312-foot terrace. The ends of the terrace are closed in with stone walls topped by iron balustrades. The four-inch spaces between the flagstones have been filled with grass sod, making a pleasing promenade. The I.O.D.E. is making its splendid contribution to the development of the Garden by financing the iron balustrades and part of the flagstone terraces on the Canadian side. The Garden House on the American side of this terrace has been completed, with its stone walls three feet thick and ten feet high. It is 32 x 34 feet, with large openings from which one can view the entire formal area. The footings of the Garden House on the Canadian side have been constructed, and the building will be completed in 1955.

The stairs which lead from the upper terrace to the lower terraces are stone, 13 feet wide and 67 feet long. Commencing at the ends of the centre retaining wall, they partly encircle the grounds around the second pool. The treads on the stairs are sawn granite from South Dakota, as are the caps on the pilasters and the curbs on the main walls. Two steps of sawn granite treads, 70 feet in length, lead from the second to the third terrace.

Most of the heavy masonry construction in the Terrace Panel has now been built. There still remains the completion of the Canadian Garden House, four low stone walls, each 190 feet in length, four comparatively small pools and a concrete channel 380 feet long, to carry the water from the third pool to each of the four following pools. Waterside plants will be placed around these pools and along the water channel. Planting of shrubbery and trees on the terraces was commenced in 1953. Sufficient land has now been prepared and is ready for planting 3,000 additional shrubs. When the above has been completed, the Terrace Panel will have been converted from a draftsman's dream to stone walks, pools, stairs, turf plots, trees, shrubs, and Garden houses, which even now are attracting many visitors from near and far.

### **Park Areas**

Each year the trees planted in the Park Areas give more definite character to the Garden. This year three hillsides along the drives were selected for replacement of the native growth with some 250 cultivated shrubs. The Planning Committee of the Garden have deliberated on the details of development of each new unit sponsored by organizations. The Order of the Eastern Star, Manitoba section, improved their Picnic Kitchen by having two coats of oil put on the logs and by erecting a low wall around part of the kitchen, and consideration is being given to their suggestion that a drive be made to link the "In-road" at the southeastern corner of Lake Stormon with the "Out-road" at the picnic kitchen.

The Manitoba Horticultural Association is planning the development of an arboretum, in which shade trees and shrubs of the varieties considered suitable for this part of North America, can be grown. A site of two acres not far from the No. 1 Picnic Kitchen has been selected. During the winter it was cleared and the land broken up this summer, but another season's cultivation is required before it will be in shape for planting.

Officials of the Four-H Clubs of Manitoba have also selected a site which they plan to sponsor, near an area that could be used for games.

The Women's Institutes of Manitoba have established a fund with which to construct a Picnic Nook. A site has been selected on the west shore of Lake Stormon and a road has been graded and made ready for gravelling.

The North Dakota Homemakers Peace Garden Committee made a number of improvements in the Lodge by furnishing additional equipment and supplying drapes for the windows.

The linking of these several organizations with definite projects in the Garden is a very helpful means of keeping the Peace Garden and its ideals for which it was organized before some thousands of people.

Briefly presented are the results of four summers' construction program. It required many hundreds of tons of stone that had to be dug out of the foothills of the Turtle Mountains west of Dunseith, North Dakota, and moved by truck nearly 15 miles. These stones were shaped by Norwegian masons resident in the district. The gravel was hauled from the same vicinity. Several carloads of cement have gone into the reinforced concrete footings for the stone walls, the pools, the stairs and the mortar used in wall construction. The concrete construction was under the direction of a Polish-born citizen of this continent. Gardeners with English background handled the horticultural work. These men of various nationalities worked together to create a centrepiece worthy of this International Peace Garden.

Perhaps the most encouraging aspect of the year has been the realization of internationalism in the Garden. Not only has there been over three times the number of visitors of the previous year, but they have come from 48 states and 10 provinces on this continent, and nine countries of the world beyond. In June, there was a pilgrimage of the National Council of Women of Canada, during their convention, to the Garden, and in the fall, the Associated Countrywomen of the World sent delegates from many countries to the Garden. An International Relations Conference of students from the Minot State College of North Dakota and the students of Brandon College, Brandon, Manitoba, added further significance to the Garden, while the Annual Meeting of the Garden itself in early September forms the focal point of the year's work. Through the international addresses of prominent people of both countries at this time the citizens get the "timeless vision that peace is something to cherish, that it is something one has to work for, and that here people are working to erect not statues and memorials to commemorate victory in war or valor in combat, but instead a lovely garden to honor and laud Peace itself."

### ***Executive Officers for 1954-55***

Chairman of the Board	Mr. John A. Stormon, Rolla, North Dakota
Honorary President	Mr. W. V. Udall, Ste. 9, Fairmont Apts., Winnipeg, Man.
President	Mr. D. G. McKenzie, 267 Grain Exchange Bldg, Winnipeg, Man.
1st Vice-President	Mr. Russell Reid, Bismarck, North Dakota
2nd Vice-President	Dr. W. R. Leslie, Morden, Manitoba
Treasurer	Mr. A. J. Robbins, 184 Campbell St., Winnipeg, Man.
Secretary	Mr. Harry A. Graves, State College Station, Fargo, N.D.
Superintendent of Garden	Mr. M. J. Tinline, Boissevain, Man. (536-12th St., Brandon)
Directors on Executive	Mr. Russell Reid, Bismarck, North Dakota
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